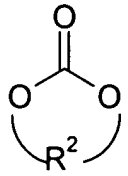
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Original)** Process of forming an organic compound, wherein

   (a) a component (A) containing at least one cyclic carbonate group having the general formula (I):



(I)

   wherein:

   R^2 represents a bivalent alkylene radical: $-(CR^3R^4)_p-$ with $p \geq 2$,

   each R^3 and each R^4 is, independently, chosen from: hydrogen, aromatic radical, alkyl or alkenyl which contains from 0 to 8 ether bridges, and R^3 and/or R^4 may be substituted by one or more alkyl, alkenyl, aromatic radical , hydroxyl group(s), and/or cyclic carbonate group of formula (I),

   (b) is reacted with a component (B) containing at least one reactive nucleophilic function X wherein each X is, independently, chosen from a primary amino or hydrazo, secondary amino or hydrazo, thiol and/or oxime,

   (c) in presence of a catalyst comprising a lithium compound

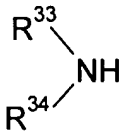
   (d) to form an organic compound (C) containing at least one unit of the general formula (II): -X-CO-O-.

2. **(Original)** Process according to claim 1, wherein component (A) contains at least one 5-membered cyclic carbonate group (p=2 in general formula (I)).

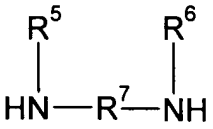
3. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein component (A) contains at least two carbonate cycles.

4. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein component (A) is chosen from propylene carbonate, ethylene carbonate, butylenecarbonate, glycerinecarbonate, allyloxymethylcarbonate and biscarbonates made starting from the diglycidylethers of bisphenol A or of polypropylene glycol.

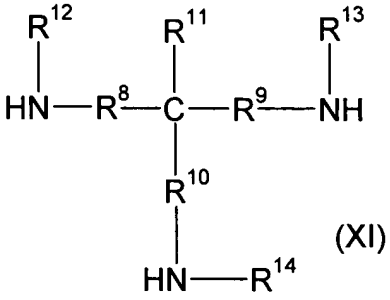
5. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein component (B) contains at least one nucleophilic function X which is an amino group.
6. **(Original)** Process according to claim 5, wherein component (B) is an amine of formula (IX), (X), (XI) or (XII)



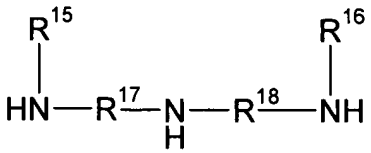
(IX)



(X)



(XI)



(XII)

wherein

R^{33} is an alkyl, optionally substituted by hydroxy, tertiary amine and/or aryl, and optionally containing from 1 to 20 ether bridges and/or from 1 to 3 tertiary amine bridges,

R^{34}, R^5, R^6, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15} and R^{16} are, independently, chosen from the group of

- hydrogen, and
- alkyl, optionally substituted by hydroxy, tertiary amine and/or aryl, and optionally containing from 1 to 8 ether bridges and/or from 1 to 3 tertiary amine bridges,
- with the proviso that, respectively, R^{33} and R^{34} , R^5 and R^6 , R^{12} and/or R^{13} and/or R^{14}, R^{15} and R^{16} may be linked together in order to form a ring,

R^7, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{17} and R^{18} are, independently, chosen from alkylene, alkenylene, arylene and aralkylene chains which may contain from 1 to 8 ether bridges and/or from 1 to 3 tertiary amine bridges,

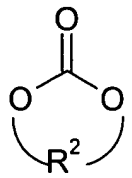
R^{11} is hydrogen or alkyl.

7. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to claim 5 ~~or 6~~, wherein component (B) contains at least two primary or secondary amino groups.
8. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein component (B) is an amine chosen amongst cyclohexylamine, N-methylbutylamine, N-methylbenzylamine, piperidine, piperazine, morpholine, benzylamine, diethylenetriamine, ethanolamine, diethanolamine and polyoxyalkylene amines and diamines.[[.]]
9. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the lithium compound is lithium oxide (Li_2O), lithium hydroxide (LiOH), lithium carbonate (Li_2CO_3), methoxylithium ($LiOCH_3$), terbutoxylithium (LiOtBu), lithium citrate, lithium chloride (LiCl),Li-stearate ($LiC_{18}H_{35}O_2$), $LiClO_4$, Li_2SO_4, LiOAc, LiOOCPh and/or lithium bromide (LiBr).
10. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the reaction temperature is comprised between 0 and 120°C~~, preferably 50 to 80°C~~.
11. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the amount of component (A) and component (B) are such that the molar ratio of cyclic carbonate groups to nucleophilic groups X is from 0.5 to 2.
12. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the catalyst concentration is comprised between 0.01 and 5% by weight of the reacting mixture.
13. **(Original)** Process according to claim 12, wherein the catalyst concentration is comprised between 0.1 and 2% by weight of the reacting mixture.
14. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the reaction is made in a solvent chosen among: alcohol, ether, ester, dimethylformamide, and water.

15. **(Currently Amended)** Process according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein component (A) containing at least one cyclic carbonate compound is prepared by reaction of the corresponding epoxide compound with carbon dioxide (CO_2) in presence of a lithium compound as catalyst.

16. **(Currently Amended)** ~~Use of a lithium compound to catalyze~~ A method of conducting a ring opening reaction wherein :

a component (A) containing at least one cyclic carbonate group having the general formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R^2 represents a bivalent alkylene radical: $-(CR^3R^4)_p-$ with $p \geq 2$,

each R^3 and each R^4 is independently chosen from: hydrogen, aromatic radical, alkyl, alkenyl which contains from 0 to 8 ether bridges, and R^3 and/or R^4 may be substituted by one or more alkyl, alkenyl, aromatic radical, hydroxyl group(s), and/or cyclic carbonate group of formula (I),

is reacted with a component (B) containing at least one reactive nucleophilic function X wherein each X is, independently, chosen from a primary amino or hydrazo , secondary amino or hydrazo , thiol, and/or oxime, in the presence of a lithium compound as catalyst

to form an organic compound (C) containing at least one unit of the general formula (II):

-X-CO-O-.

17. **(New)** Process according to claim 10 wherein the reaction temperature is 50 to 80°C.